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NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY ANTI-TERRORISM SUMMARY



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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QUICK LINKS

[North Dakota](#)

[Emergency Services](#)

[Regional](#)

[Energy](#)

[National](#)

[Food and Agriculture](#)

[International](#)

[Government Sector \(including
Schools and Universities\)](#)

[Banking and Finance Industry](#)

[Information Technology and
Telecommunications](#)

[Chemical and Hazardous Materials
Sector](#)

[Public Health](#)

[Commercial Facilities](#)

[Transportation](#)

[Communications Sector](#)

[Water and Dams](#)

[Critical Manufacturing](#)

[North Dakota Homeland Security
Contacts](#)

[Defense Industrial Base Sector](#)

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NORTH DAKOTA

(North Dakota) Jury convicts Northwood potato farmers on all counts in crop insurance fraud case. Two former North Dakota potato farmers were found guilty December 11 of intentionally destroying some of their potato crops from 2002 to 2010 in order to fraudulently obtain about \$2 million in crop insurance and federal disaster payments from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The men allegedly spoiled their 2006 crop by adding chemicals such as Rid-X, as well as heat, water, and frozen potatoes to their products held in a storage building in Cooperstown. <http://www.grandforksherald.com/news-crime-and-courts/jury-convicts-northwood-potato-farmers-all-counts-crop-insurance-fraud-case>

(North Dakota) Mechanical failure shuts down power plant. Otter Tail Power Company energy officials announced that the Coyote Station near Beulah, North Dakota, is closed until they can assess the amount of damage from a December 4 fire caused by a major mechanical failure at the plant. Authorities determined that one of the power plant's turbine-driven boiler pumps suffered a mechanical failure which prompted oil lines to rupture, causing a fire. http://bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/mechanical-failure-shuts-down-power-plant/article_339b4092-7be8-11e4-bb8a-cb4d843b92d7.html

(North Dakota) 400-barrel oil spill contained near Williston; company blames release on failed valve. Statoil reported that a 400-barrel oil spill near Williston December 8 was caused by a failed valve, while North Dakota regulators announced December 11 that the oil was contained and recovered at the site. <http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/1956b1d74e334114afb0a447fadc8bcd/ND--Oil-Spill-Contained>

(North Dakota) North Dakota Regulators Impose Oil Shipment Rules. North Dakota regulators set new rules Tuesday that will require oil companies that are sending out millions of gallons of crude a week by rail to reduce the oil's volatility before it's loaded onto train cars. <http://kstp.com/news/stories/S3644900.shtml>

REGIONAL

(Montana) 2 injured in MSU dorm explosion. A December 4 explosion at Montana State University's Langford Hall dormitory in Bozeman left two students

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injured and caused structural damage to several rooms on the third floor. Students were temporarily evacuated and authorities determined the explosion was set off by an aerosol product that was sprayed in the air and ignited with a lighter. <http://www.greatfallsribune.com/story/news/local/2014/12/05/injured-msu-dorm-explosion/19934405/>

(Minnesota) Unit 1 of Prairie Island nuclear plant shut down. The Unit 1 reactor at the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant near Red Wing was shut down December 11 to replace a faulty reactor coolant pump seal. Work was expected to take less than 1 week to complete the repair. http://www.postbulletin.com/news/local/unit-of-prairie-island-nuclear-plant-shut-down/article_9b3aff79-ed52-513a-97af-3feb1b239edc.html

NATIONAL

(National) Cyber breakthrough eludes lawmakers. In their final week, lawmakers trumpeted the passage of five cyber bills, a tidal wave of activity given Congress's recent track record on cyber issues. But the bills mostly codified existing cyber roles within various agencies or expanded the government's ability to hire and train a cyber workforce. The White House has indicated it will sign the bills into law. <http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/cyber-breakthrough-eludes-lawmakers/ar-BBgMXkj?ocid=ansnewsreu11>

(National) Chrysler recalls 208,000 vehicles for Takata air bags. Chrysler announced December 11 that it was expanding its recall of vehicles equipped with airbag inflators manufactured by Takata Corp., to include an additional 208,783 vehicles in 5 States and 3 territories due to the potential for the inflators to spray metal fragments into the vehicles' cabins upon airbag deployment. The recall expansion includes model year 2003-2005 Dodge Ram 1500, 2500, and 3500; 2004-2005 Dodge Durango; 2005 Chrysler 300, 300C, and SRT8; and 2005 Dodge Magnum vehicles. <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2014/12/12/chrysler-recalls-vehicles-takata-air-bags/20289035/>

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INTERNATIONAL

(International) Chinese man accused of smuggling Massachusetts-made parts for nuclear weapons to Iran extradited to Boston. A Chinese citizen was extradited from the U.K. to the U.S. December 5 on charges that the man allegedly conspired to fraudulently export over 1,000 pressure transducers manufactured by MKS Instruments from the U.S. to China and then on to Iran, in violation of U.S. sanctions restricting materials that can be used by Iran's nuclear program.

http://www.masslive.com/news/boston/index.ssf/2014/12/chinese_man_accused_of_smuggli.html

(International) Moldova: 7 arrested suspected of uranium smuggling. Authorities in Moldova stated December 9 that they arrested 7 people for allegedly smuggling 7 ounces of uranium-238 mixed with uranium-235 worth around \$2 million. An investigation aided by the FBI found that the suspects were part of an alleged smuggling group that had specialized knowledge of radioactive materials and how to prevent their detection while in transit from Russia.

<https://news.yahoo.com/moldova-7-arrested-suspected-uranium-smuggling-121352584.html>

(International) Red October cyber spy op goes mobile via spear-phishing. Researchers with Blue Coat and Kaspersky Lab identified and analyzed a cyber-espionage campaign that appears similar to the RedOctober campaign dubbed Cloud Atlas or Inception Framework that has been targeting the Android, iOS, and BlackBerry devices of specific users in the government, finance, energy, military, and engineering sectors in several countries via spearphishing. The malware appears to primarily be designed to record phone conversations and can also track locations, monitor text messages, and read contact lists.

<http://news.softpedia.com/news/Red-October-Cyber-Spy-Op-Goes-Mobile-Via-Spear-Phishing-467099.shtml>

(International) Iranian CLEAVER hacks through airport security, Cisco boxen. Researchers with Cylance published a report on a suspected Iranian hacking group that has compromised a variety of targets including government and military systems, telecommunications companies, research facilities, airports, defense contractors, and utilities in a campaign dubbed Operation Cleaver. The

researchers stated that the group compromised critical infrastructure assets and Cisco networking equipment but did not engage in manipulation of those systems. http://www.theregister.co.uk/2014/12/03/operation_cleaver/

BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

(International) New variant of Neverquest banking trojan targets North America. Researchers with IBM Trusteer reported December 5 that they have observed a new variant of the Neverquest banking trojan being used predominantly against financial institutions in North America, with some additional targets in the media, gaming, and social networking industries. The malware has been distributed by drive-by downloads using exploit kits as well as by the Chaintor and Zemot trojan downloaders. <http://www.securityweek.com/new-variant-neverquest-banking-trojan-targets-north-america>

(New York) Pizza orders reveal credit card scheme, and a secondhand market. Police in New York City conducted a sweep that led to 14 arrests November 13-14 after it was found that criminals using stolen payment card information were placing orders through a Domino's mobile app in order to test which stolen card numbers were able to be charged to. Card numbers that were able to be successfully charged to were then used for larger fraudulent purchases. <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/06/nyregion/pizza-orders-reveal-credit-card-scheme-and-a-secondhand-market.html>

(International) Hackers breached payment solutions provider CHARGE Anywhere: Undetected since 2009. Electronic payment solutions provider CHARGE Anywhere stated December 9 that attackers had gained access to its network as early as November 2009 using a previously unknown and undetected piece of malware and were able to capture payment card data from some communications that did not have encryption. The company discovered the compromise September 22 and an investigation found that network traffic capture occurred between August 17 and September 24. <http://www.securityweek.com/hackers-breach-payment-solutions-provider-charge-anywhere-numerous-merchants-affected>

CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

Nothing Significant to Report

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

(New York) Security stepped up after Brooklyn Jewish center stabbing. Police shot and killed a man who stabbed a student inside the library of the Chabad-Lubavitch headquarters in the Brooklyn area of New York City December 9. Additional security measures were added at the headquarters following the attack. <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2014/12/10/security-stepped-up-after-jewish-center-stabbing-mentally-ill-suspect-shot-dead/>

COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

(Illinois) 19 hospitalized, thousands evacuated in “intentional” gas leak at Rosemont hotel. An intentional chlorine gas leak left 19 people hospitalized with symptoms of nausea and dizziness, and evacuated thousands of people for 2 hours from the Hyatt hotel in Rosemont, Illinois, December 7 during an annual convention. Authorities found a substance consistent with powdered chlorine in a stairwell at the hotel and decontaminated the area. <http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/other/19-hospitalized-thousands-evacuated-in-intentional-gas-leak-at-rosemont-hotel/ar-BBgswJR>

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

Nothing Significant to Report

DEFENSE/ INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR

Nothing Significant to Report

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Nothing Significant to Report

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ENERGY

(Vermont) Vermont electric outages persist after storms move out, 32,000 in the dark. Utility crews worked December 11 to restore power to 32,000 customers in Vermont following a series of winter storms that dumped nearly 2 feet of snow across parts of the State.

<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/b46a5e7945e340cbacc9d312df655be3/VT--Wintry-Weather-Vermont>

(South Carolina) EPA: 8,000-gallon gas pipeline cleanup to last weeks. Officials reported December 10 that work to clean up an estimated 8,000-gallon gasoline leak from a 26-inch pipeline owned by the Plantation Pipe Link Company near Belton will continue for 2 to 3 weeks after the pipeline was shut off December 8 following a leak. Service was expected to resume December 11 while authorities continue to investigate the cause of the leak.

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/12/10/gas-leak-near-belton-sparks-cleanup/20189533/>

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Nothing Significant to Report

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)

(Oklahoma) Officials report breach to OU nursing college's web server. Officials with the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center reported December 8 that a server at its College of Nursing was compromised, potentially enabling unauthorized access to the personal information of an unknown amount of students who applied to or attended the College of Nursing from 2005 to the present. The university discovered the breach October 20 and worked to recover the system November 3. <http://newsok.com/officials-report-breach-to-ou-nursing-colleges-web-server/article/feed/769937>

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(International) Newly discovered 'Turla' malware targets Linux systems.

Kaspersky Lab researchers identified a piece of malware targeting Linux systems associated with the Turla advanced persistent threat (APT) group (also known as Uroburos or Snake) that is based on the cd00r proof-of-concept backdoor and is capable of hidden network communications, remote management, and arbitrary remote command execution. Previous versions of Turla malware have targeted Windows systems in government agencies, military groups, educational institutions, pharmaceutical companies, and other targets in more than 45 countries. <http://www.securityweek.com/newly-discovered-turla-malware-targets-linux-systems>

PUBLIC HEALTH

(National) Health insurance online threats revealed. RiskIQ researchers found that Web sites hosted by third party code libraries, external providers, and excessive mobile app permissions represent the largest risk to users of health insurance Web and mobile self-service tools now that providers are investing in Web and mobile app infrastructures to establish new customer touch points. <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=17718>

(Oklahoma) Man arrested after three nurses, security guard attacked with knife at OKC hospital. Police arrested a suspect after he allegedly entered the emergency room of Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City and stabbed two nurses with a knife December 9. A third nurse and security guard also suffered injuries in the attack and the suspect was found and apprehended by authorities after he barricaded himself in a visiting room at the hospital. <http://kfor.com/2014/12/09/police-two-nurses-stabbed-at-okc-hospital/>

TRANSPORTATION

(Michigan) Man accused of stabbing 4 people aboard Amtrak train in Niles to be arraigned today. A Saginaw man was charged December 8 after allegedly attacking and stabbing four people aboard an Amtrak train in Niles December 5. Officers subdued the suspect after reports of an agitated individual on the train.

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http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/12/man_accused_of_stabbing_4_peop.html

(Maryland) E-cigarette sparks in-flight emergency for BWI-bound plane. A Southwest Airlines flight from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, made an emergency landing at Baltimore-Washington Thurgood Marshall International Airport December 10 when the pilot declared an in-flight emergency after a smoke detector went off in one of the plane's lavatories. Emergency crews and investigators determined the vapor from an electronic cigarette set off the alarm.
<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bs-md-bwi-smoke-20141211-story.html>

WATER AND DAMS

(Iowa) Railroad settles Mississippi River oil spill claim. The Dakota Minnesota and Eastern Railroad Corp, a subsidiary of Canadian Pacific, agreed to pay \$625,000 fine to settle allegations by the State of Iowa and the U.S. government related to a July 2008 derailment that caused 4,400 gallons of diesel oil and other petroleum products to spill into the Mississippi River between Iowa and Wisconsin, causing floating slicks of oil and sheen along a 10-mile stretch. Authorities claimed that the company failed to adequately clean up the spill that damaged the shoreline and aquatic life.
http://siouxcityjournal.com/ap/business/railroad-settles-mississippi-river-oil-spill-claim/article_873b7df3-bb95-586e-891e-d03f94878fab.html

NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center:** 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY); Email: ndslic@nd.gov; Fax: 701-328-8175 **State Radio:** 800-472-2121; **Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI):** 701-328-5500; **North Dakota Highway Patrol:** 701-328-2455; **US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst:** 701-297-7400; **Bismarck FBI:** 701-223-4875; **Fargo FBI:** 701-232-7241.

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To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

Darin Hanson, ND Division of Homeland Security dthanson@nd.gov, 701-328-8165

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